

### Amendments to the Drawings

The attached sheets of drawings include sheets 1-7 of formal drawings for Figs. 1-14. Those seven sheets replace the original sheets 1-7 including Figs. 1-14. The formal drawings address the issues objected to by the Examiner in the Office Action. No substantive changes were made and no new matter was added.

Attachment: Seven (7) Replacement Sheets

{ W:\20800\0204924us0\00888850.DOC 00000000000000000000000000000000 }

## REMARKS

In the office Action, the drawings were objected to and the specification was objected to for informalities. In addition, claim 1 was objected to for informalities and was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,093,400 to Rybicki (“Rybicki”).

In this response, the specification and abstract have been amended and Figs. 1 and 3-8 of the drawings have been amended. Claim 1 has been cancelled and new claims 34-64 have been added.

Upon entry of the amendments, claims 34-64 will be pending.

Reconsideration of the application in view of the amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

### Objections to the Specification:

The specification was objected to for numerous informalities. Applicants have amended the specification to address each of the Examiner's grounds for objections and furthermore to adapt the translation of the German language international application to U.S. requirements.

### Objections to the Drawings:

Figs. 1 and 3-8 of the drawings were objected to for being blurry and of poor line quality. Applicants have prepared formal drawings for Figs. 1-14 and have submitted them herewith. No substantive changes were made and no new matter was added.

**Objection and Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) to Claim 1:**

Claim 1 was objected to for informalities and was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Rybicki.

Claim 1 has been cancelled.

Withdrawal of the objection to claim 1 is respectfully requested.

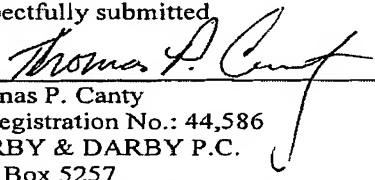
New Claims 34-64:

Applicants have added new independent claim 34 and dependent claims 35-64. Applicants respectfully submit that Rybicki does not describe all of the features of independent claim 34. Specifically, Rybicki does not describe at least the feature of two connectable rotor blades wherein each rotor blade has two auxiliary flapping hinges spaced apart from one another in a radial longitudinal direction of the blade and a virtual flapping hinge disposed substantially between the two auxiliary flapping hinges as recited in claim 34.

In view of the above amendment and remarks, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Dated: November 16, 2006

Respectfully submitted

By 

Thomas P. Canty  
Registration No.: 44,586  
DARBY & DARBY P.C.  
P.O. Box 5257  
New York, New York 10150-5257  
(212) 527-7700  
(212) 527-7701 (Fax)  
Attorneys/Agents For Applicant